

REMARKS

Claims 11-16 are present in the instant application. At the outset, Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-5 and 8-10. In the most recent Office Action, claims 2-5 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite because the recitation of "said scanning line interval" in claims 2 and 7 lack antecedent basis. Claims 1-2 and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. Heisei 9-247423 (hereinafter, "JP '423"). The Office Action also objects to the title as not descriptive.

Applicant believes that the title as previously presented was sufficiently descriptive, within the guidelines of 37 C.F.R. § 1.72. However, in the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicant has amended the title above to more explicitly characterize certain features of the disclosed invention. However, under no circumstances should this amendment be considered a disclaimer of the scope of the invention.

As amended above, claims 1-10 are cancelled. Therefore, the rejection of claims 2-5 and 7-10 is moot. Also as amended above, new claims 11-16 are presented. These claims are fully supported by the application as originally filed, and no new matter has been added. Claim 11 will be seen to include the subject matter previously recited in claims 3 and its underlying base claims, indicated allowable in the Office Action. Similarly, claim 14 will be seen to include subject matter previously recited in claim 8 and its underlying base claims, also indicated allowable in the Office Action. Claims 12-

13 and 15-16 depend from claims 11 and 14, respectively. New claims 12-13 and 15-16 generally correspond to cancelled claims 4-5 and 9-10, respectively.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims recite patentable subject matter, and kindly solicits an early indication of allowability of all claims. If the Examiner has any reservation in allowing the claims, and believes that a telephone interview would advance prosecution, he is kindly requested to telephone the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Torrente", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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